

Telephone: Victoria 0479.
Telegraphic Address: Parenunion, Southwest, London (Counts as 3 words only)
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Parents' Review.
Price 9d. Monthly.

PARENTS' NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL UNION

(FOUNDED 1888, INCORPORATED 1921.)

Founder	Miss Charlotte M. Mason.
Presidents	The Most Hon. the Marquess and Marchioness of Aberdeen and Temair.
Chairman of Executive ...	The Rev. H. Costley-White, D.D.
Hon. Treasurer	Col. the Hon. Douglas Carnegie.

Hon. Sec.: The Hon. Mrs. FRANKLIN
56 Portchester Terrace, Hyde Park.
At the Office: By appointment.
Ord. Sec.: Miss PENNETHORNE, Herchel Hotel, Claremont, Cape Town.
Asst. Ord. Sec.: Miss BLAKEY.
Gen. Sec.: Miss WHYTE.
OFFICE OPEN: 10-4, except Saturdays

26, VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, S.W.1.

14/2/27-
Sent to Heads of Training Dep't.

I venture to write to you in the belief that the work of the Parents' National Educational Union, founded by Miss Charlotte Mason, is known to you, and that the increasing part which Miss Mason's philosophy and methods of teaching are playing in the educational system of our country have come under your observation.

The Parents' Union School curriculum, originally intended for the home schoolroom, has found its way from there to private, preparatory and secondary schools, and, during the last ten years, to an increasing number of public elementary schools, some four hundred of which are now being taught by these methods, using the prescribed books, and following the programmes of work devised by the Director of the Parents' Union School at Ambleside.

It is important therefore that young teachers should be able to study Miss Mason's principles of education and obtain practice in her methods of teaching during their period of training. Moreover, at the Headmasters' Conference held last December in Brighton, Dr. Lyttelton introduced a discussion on Charlotte Mason's methods, and, following a resolution proposed by me and seconded by Dr. Norwood, Headmaster of Harrow, a sub-committee was formed to discuss the whole question. In consequence of this, we foresee a larger demand for

teachers qualified to teach on these lines. The Training College of our Union, founded by Charlotte Mason at Ambleside, cannot meet the already existing demand for teachers for home schoolrooms, small classes and private schools; and it is probable that preparatory and possibly public schools may in the future adopt Miss Mason's methods, and will therefore require teachers trained in them who are also graduates of a university. My Committee has, therefore, appointed a sub-committee to consider the best lines of meeting this demand.

This sub-committee feels that very little can be done without the co-operation of the Training Departments of the British Universities, and would respectfully ask the Directors of the Training Departments to consider the possibility of introducing into their syllabuses the principal books of Charlotte Mason, and of including among the optional questions in their examination papers questions that bear upon them. This sub-committee would also ask that students studying for the diploma, who wish to qualify to use the Charlotte Mason methods, should be allowed to gain their practice in teaching in such schools as are recognised as efficient exponents of those methods.

I hope you will be good enough to give this letter your earnest consideration and will allow representatives of the sub-committee to call upon you at a not too distant date to discuss the subject further.

Yours truly,

Chairman of the Executive of the P.N.E.U. and
Headmaster of Westminster School.

Members of Sub-Committee.

The Rev. H. Costley-White, D.D.
The Lady Cottesloe, Vice-Pres.
P.N.E.U.

Miss Faunce, Principal, P.N.E.U.

School, Queen's Gardens, W.2.

The Hon Mrs. Franklin, Hon. Sec.

P.N.E.U., President, N.C.W.

Miss Lynda Grier, M.A., Principal,
Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

Mr. Hickson, B.A. Co-Principal,
Oldfield School, Swanage.

Mr. H. W. Household, M.A., Education
Secretary for Gloucestershire.

Miss Kitching, Director, Parents'
Union School.

Miss Parish, Principal, House of
Education, Ambleside.

Dr. Telford Petrie, College of
Technology, Manchester.

London County Council.

Telephone:
HOLBORN 5918



London Day Training College
(University of London),
Southampton Row,
London, W.C. 1.
15th March, 1927.

Dear Dr. Costley-White,

I must ask you to forgive me for not attending more promptly to your letter of March 10th with reference to the Parents' National Educational Union. An abnormally heavy rush of work and engagements must be my inadequate excuse.

I am, of course, not unfamiliar with Miss Mason's work and never fail to ^{direct} ~~attract~~ our students' attention to it. We prescribe scarcely any books for students' reading, thinking it better to encourage them to follow up their own special tastes and preferences. This does not, however, mean that we do not recommend books to their attention.

Since I heard from you I have had a letter from Miss Whyte asking me to see Mr. Household and have, with much pleasure, given him the appointment suggested.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

T. Percy Turner

Principal.

Rev. H. Costley-White, D.D.,
26, Victoria Street,
S.W. 1.

14/11/26
All communications to be addressed to:
"The Secretary,
County Education Office,
Shire Hall, Gloucester."

TELEPHONE No. 910.

COUNTY EDUCATION OFFICE,
SHIRE HALL,
GLOUCESTER.



In reply please
quote.

18th March 1927.

Dear Miss Whyte,

I had what I regard as a most satisfactory interview with Dr. Percy Munn.

I put the two points of our request - not perhaps exactly as our letter puts them, but in the only manner in which I think it at all likely that Training Departments will generally concede them at present: namely if students declare their desire to qualify to teach by the Charlotte Mason methods will he (1) give facilities for their study by including some of her books in the syllabus and (2) send them to take their teaching practice in P.M.E.U. Schools.

Dr. Munn said that as his people were going out into the public Secondary Schools in which at present there is little or no demand for experience on our lines he could not concentrate to any degree on our methods: he must give what is wanted. But he does call attention to Charlotte Mason and her books and methods. He prescribes no books for the diploma but students are invited to send in during the year a study of some educational reformer (I think that was the effect of what he said); and that any student who wanted to qualify in the Charlotte Mason methods could take her and her books as his theme. He also promised that if any student presents himself or herself he will see that the three weeks teaching practice which all students have to take in a public elementary School are taken in a P.M.E.U. School such as Franciscan Road. Whether the Board will allow him to send them for further practice to a private School such as Miss Faunce's he is rather doubtful. He asks that he may be supplied with a list of the Schools of all types that are following our methods and are approved by us in London and its immediate vicinity. It is not as a rule possible for the London students to go so far afield as Oxford and Cambridge Students go.

It is up to us now to find some student who will ask for an opportunity to study the methods.

I said I should like to have an opportunity in the autumn of addressing the students and he said that he should be very glad to give it. He also hopes to visit a P.M.E.U. School in Gloucestershire. He

2472 cmc 245

has never yet seen one anywhere. He describes himself as on the left wing of the Training Colleges and sympathetic towards our ideals.

I think this may be considered a good start.

Yours sincerely,

H. W. Houseman

Miss Whyte,
P.N.E.U.
26 Victoria Street,
London S.W. 1.

MS. MC. 265

21st March, 1927.

H. W. Household, Esq.,
County Education Office,
Shire Hall,
Gloucester.

Dear Mr. Household,

Many thanks for your letter of the 18th which
Mrs. Franklin and I find most interesting, and I
know the Committee will too.

I am sending Dr. Mann a list of approved P.E.E.U.
schools in London where students might go for their
teaching practice.

I wish he could come to Cirencester.

Yours sincerely,

Secretary.

Professor Percy Nunn,
London Day Training College,
Southampton Row.

21st March, 1927

Dear Sir,

Mr. Household has told me of his visit to you on Thursday. He wishes me to send you a list of approved schools in London where students might take their teaching practice if this could be arranged. I am afraid we have no good boys' school actually in London.

It occurs to me that you might like to go and see one of these schools at work, and I am enclosing introductions to one elementary and one secondary school.

I suppose it would not be possible for you to come to the P.N.E.U. Conference in Cirencester, of which I enclose a notice. As you will see, we are arranging visits to Gloucestershire schools working on P.N.E.U. methods during this Conference.

Please do not bother to reply to this letter.

Yours truly,

Secretary.

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